

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17 and 20 were pending. Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18 and 19 were previously canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. By this Amendment, new dependent claims 21 and 22 have been added, and independent claims 1, 6, 7, 14, 17 and 20 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17 and 20-22 are now pending, with claims 1, 6, 7, 14, 17 and 20 being in independent form.

Applicant maintains that no new matter is introduced by this Amendment. Support for the claim amendments may be found in the application at, for example, page 5, lines 2-7, page 6, lines 8-11, and page 8, lines 13-17. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment be entered.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

On page 3 of the January 25, 2005 final Office Action, claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, 15, 17 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,339,423 to Sampson et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,032,260 to Sasmazel et al.

In reference to claims 1, 7, 14, 17 and 20, the January 25, 2005 Office Action stated that Sampson discloses an access authentication system for providing a client with a service of connection to a terminal server. The Office Action further stated that the system includes a first authentication server for determining whether or not the client should be connected to the first terminal server, on the basis of personal information input by the client to the first terminal server. The Office Action also stated that the first authentication server creating first ticket data by encoding a client parameter, which includes part of the personal information, on the basis of a predetermined

formula. The Office Action further stated that the access control 240 performs the function of the authentication server by determining if the browser is authenticated. The Office Action stated that the access control also sends the browser a cookie that is encrypted therefore encoded personal information using a predetermined formula. The Office Action also stated that Sampson creates a second cookie by encoding the client parameter on the basis of a predetermined formula when the browser tries to connect to a new domain.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action acknowledged that Sampson does not expressly disclose transferring the ticket to the web server, checking whether the ticket is used, and supplying the web server with information indicative of whether the second terminal server should be connected to the client. The Office Action further acknowledged that while Sampson discloses a cookie (ticket) with user data, Sampson does not expressly disclose the data in the cookie encoded using a summarization using a one-way function.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action stated that Sasmazel discloses a system of transferring the eticket from server to server. The Office Action further stated that the information in the eticket of Sasmazel is hashed (summarization using a one-way function) and encrypted (one-way function). The Office Action also stated that the eticket of Sasmazel is transferred to the second terminal server by the first sending it to the browser and then the browser sends the ticket to the web server 220 or 240.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action stated that the second authorization server (360), which performs the function of the second authentication server of detecting whether or not client parameter is valid and whether or not the first ticket data has been used. The Office Action further stated that Sasmazel checks whether the user is in session, which is a method of checking

whether the eticket has been used. The Office Action stated that the web server is then supplied data indicative of whether or not the second terminal server should be connected to the client. The Office Action also stated that Sasmazel stores in a file information for authenticating the user and therefore first ticket data. The Office Action further stated that comparing the first and second ticket data includes checking the validity of the ticket.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action stated that the system of Sasmazel discloses the client parameter includes at least one of ID information of the client, and access-originator IP address and an expiration date set for the first ticket data. The Office Action further stated that the system of Sasmazel suggests the common character string is changed at a predetermined point in time.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action alleged that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to transfer the ticket information to the web server, check whether the ticket is used and supply the web server with information indicative of whether the second terminal server should be connected to the client as in the system of Sasmazel in the system of Sampson. The Office Action further alleged that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because the ticket may be securely passed from server to server without the user having to re-authenticate.

In reference to claim 6, the January 25, 2005 Office Action further stated that in addition, Sampson discloses a system wherein the user may enter logon information. The Office Action also stated that logon information includes an ID and a password entered by the client. The Office Action further stated that the ticket disclosed by Sasmazel that is transported from server to

server includes an expiration date; and a common character string in the form of a public signature. The Office Action stated that since the ticket includes ID information and the system checks whether as user is in session. The Office Action also stated that the system of Sasmazel therefore compares the access-originator IP address provided in the ticket which is sent to the second terminal server this would result in determining whether or not access by the client has been executed on or before the expiration date.

In reference to claim 10, the January 25, 2005 Office Action acknowledged that Sampson does not expressly disclose the second authentication means judges validity of the first ticket data.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action stated that Sasmazel stores in a file information for authenticating the user and therefore first ticket data. The Office Action further stated that comparing the first and second ticket data includes checking the validity of the ticket. The Office Action also stated that this suggests the second authentication means judges the validity of the first ticket data.

The January 25, 2005 Office Action alleged that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to judge the validity of the first ticket data as shown in Sasmazel in the system of Sampson. The Office Action further alleged that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to this because checking the validity of the ticket would expose any attempt to carry out fraud.

In reference to claim 11, the at the time the invention was made, Office Action stated that since the validity of the ticket is checked it follows that the legality of the client parameter is check.

Applicant maintains that the cited references do not render the claimed invention unpatentable. The claimed invention is patentable over the cited art for at least the following reasons.

The present application relates to access authentication when service is provided to connect a client to a second terminal server via a first terminal server. In many instances, the client will want to obtain the benefit of services from plural terminal servers, since generally no single server can provide all of the services that the client would want. However, the client is typically contracted with the first terminal server for receiving services from the first terminal server, but is not contracted with the second terminal server (or additional terminal servers). In addition, the client may not wish to connect directly to the second terminal server for other reasons (such as convenience). For example, in order to connect directly to a terminal server, the client typically is required to supply personal information, such as ID information and password, to the terminal server. Therefore, if the client seeks the services of plural terminal servers, it is very inconvenient for the client to connect directly to the plural terminal servers, each of which would require the client to enter the personal information.

Applicant devised improved techniques which enable a client to obtain services from plural terminal servers, without having to enter personal information plural times for the respective plural terminal servers. The claimed invention of the present application provides for authentication by transferring client parameter and first ticket data created by a first authentication server (associated with the first terminal server) to a second authentication server (associated with the second terminal server). The first authorization server transfers the first

ticket data and the client parameter directly to the second authorization server without going through the client. Based on the first ticket data and the client parameter, the second authentication server determines whether or not the second terminal server is should be connected to the client. Thus, assuming the first ticket data and the client parameter are authenticated by the second authentication server, the client can be connected to, and obtain the services of, the second terminal server via the first terminal server.

Applicant does not find teaching or suggestion in Sasmazel or Sampson of an access authentication system or method wherein the client is connected to the second terminal server via the first terminal server. Both Sasmazel and Sampson relies on the client to connect to the second terminal server after obtaining a data token or eticket from the first server.

The April 25, 2005 Advisory Action acknowledged that Sasmazel and Sampson do not disclose or suggest the feature that the client connects to the second terminal server via the first terminal server. The Advisory Action further stated that features recited in the preamble of the claims, however, are afforded no patentable weight. The Advisory Action also stated that adding the feature to the body of the claims that the client connects to the second terminal server via the first terminal server will overcome Sasmazel and Sampson.

By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 6, 7, 14, 17 and 20 have been amended to include in the bodies thereof the feature that the client connects to the second terminal server via the first terminal server.

In view of the claim amendments and remarks hereinabove, Applicant maintains that the application is now in condition for

allowance.

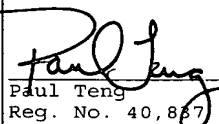
If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the telephone number provided below.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

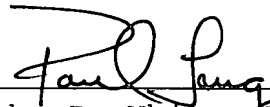
No fee, other than the enclosed \$120.00 fee for the one-month extension of time and the enclosed \$790.00 fee under 37 C.F.R. \$1.17(e) for the Request for Continued Examination, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


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May 17, 2005
Date


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